

Washington, D.C. 20515

HANOVER, MASSACHUSETTS
617-622-2806CAPE AND ISLAND
148 MAIN STREET
HYANNE, MASSACHUSETTS
617-771-0833

October 12, 1982

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, the Intelligence Oversight Act of 1980 made several changes in the manner in which intelligence-related information would be shared with various Committees of the Congress.

The purpose of this letter is to inquire into the rights of the Foreign Affairs Committee under this Act, and to solicit information concerning the law's implementation thus far in the 97th Congress.

I realize that the Intelligence Act does not guarantee to the Foreign Affairs Committee prior notification of covert activities. The law does, however, require each Intelligence Committee to "promptly call to the attention of its respective House, or to any other appropriate committee or committees of its respective House, any matter relating to intelligence activities requiring the attention of such House or such committee or committees."

During debate on the bill, Senator Huddleston stated that the legislation "specifically recognizes the responsibility of the two Intelligence Committees to bring to the attention of any other Committee or of either House matters warranting their concern. For example, if the CIA were undertaking a major covert operation which would have significant effects on U.S. foreign policy in a certain region of the world, I would view it to be incumbent upon the Senate Intelligence Committee to inform the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the initiative."

My questions regarding the law and its implementation are as follows:

1. As Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, do you share the view expressed above by Senator Huddleston concerning the obligations of the Intelligence Committee? In particular, do you agree that a major covert operation having significant foreign policy impact is a matter which would "require the attention"

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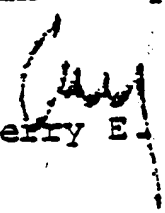
of the Foreign Affairs Committee? In general, what types of intelligence-related operations and activities do you believe would ordinarily fall under the category of matters "requiring the attention" of our Committee?

2. In what manner does the Intelligence Committee bring matters "requiring their attention" to appropriate Committees of the House, and particularly, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs?
3. Since the Intelligence Oversight Act was approved, how many times has the House Intelligence Committee brought matters "requiring the attention" of the Foreign Affairs Committee to our attention?
4. When matters of this nature are "brought to the attention" of the Foreign Affairs Committee, what is the procedure used to make that information available to Members of the Committee?

I appreciate your taking the time to respond to these questions, and want to thank you in advance for your help.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,


Gerry E. Studds

The Honorable Clement Zablocki
Chairman
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
2170 Rayburn H.O.B.